

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method of controlling a fire consuming a combustible object comprising a step of applying a sufficient amount of a fire-fighting composition to the combustible object to retard, suppress, or extinguish the fire, said fire-fighting composition comprising:

(a) 0.01% to 20%, by weight, of a superabsorbent polymer;

(b) 0.005% to 10%, by weight, of a colorant;

(c) 0.005% to 10%, by weight, of an additional opacifying agent selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, a styrene-butadiene copolymer, a styrene-vinylpyrrolidone copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-acrylonitrile copolymer, an acrylic polymer, a polyvinyl acetate, a polyvinyl acrylate, a starch, a polyethylenimine, a polystyrene, a polyethylene, a polyvinyl alcohol, and mixtures thereof; and

(d) water.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the opacifying agent comprises calcium carbonate.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein the opacifying agent comprises an emulsion or a latex of the styrene-butadiene copolymer, styrene-vinylpyrrolidone copolymer, styrene-butadiene-acrylonitrile copolymer, acrylic polymer, polyvinyl acetate, polyvinyl acrylate, starch, polyethylenimine, polystyrene, polyethylene, polyvinyl alcohol, or ~~mixture~~ mixtures thereof.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the opacifying agent comprises a polyethylenimine.

5. (Currently amended) The method of ~~one~~ ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ 4 wherein the composition further comprises up to 10%, by weight, of a water soluble organic solvent.

6. (Currently amended) The method of ~~one~~ ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ 5 wherein the composition further comprises one or more optional ingredient selected from the group consisting of a viscosity modifier, a dispersant, a pH modifier, a surfactant, and mixtures thereof.

7. (Currently amended) The method of ~~one~~ ~~of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ 6 wherein the composition imparts a color to the combustible object.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the color imparted to the combustible object substantially fades within 30 days after application of the composition.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 ~~or~~ 8 wherein the color imparted to the combustible object is of sufficient intensity such that a combustible object having the composition applied thereto is differentiated from the combustible object that lacks ~~on~~ an application of the composition by a naked eye.

10. (Currently amended) The method of ~~one of the claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 9~~ wherein the composition is applied by ground equipment or by aerial equipment.

11. (Original) A composition comprising

(a) 0.1% to 5%, by weight, of a superabsorbent polymer;

(b) 0.015% to 2%, by weight, of a colorant;

(c) 0.015% to 2%, by weight, of an additional opacifying agent selected from the group consisting of calcium carbonate, a styrene-butadiene copolymer, a styrene-vinylpyrrolidone copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-acrylonitrile copolymer, an acrylic polymer, a polyvinyl acetate, a polyvinyl acrylate, a starch, a polyethylenimine, a polystyrene, a polyethylene, a polyvinyl alcohol, and mixtures thereof; and

(d) water.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 11 further comprising up to about 10%, by weight, of a water-soluble organic solvent.

13. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 11 ~~or claim 12~~ further comprising one or more optional ingredient selected from the group consisting of a viscosity modifier, a dispersant, a pH modifier, a surfactant, and mixtures thereof.

14. (Currently amended) The composition of ~~one of the claims~~ claim 11 ~~to 13~~ wherein the colorant and the opacifying agent are present in a weight ratio of 1 part colorant of 0.5 to 3 parts opacifying agent.

15. (Currently amended) The composition of ~~one of the claims~~ claim 11 to 14 wherein the opacifying agent and the superabsorbent polymer are present in a weight ratio of 1 part opacifying agent to 2 to 4 parts superabsorbent polymer.